

RURAL DISTRICT OF WELLS



Lib. 2.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*(including the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector)*

FOR THE YEAR

**1964**



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WELLS

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Deryck E. Clare, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

S. Harkness, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

T. E. Mason.

COMMITTEES DEALING WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Committee

Housing Committee



RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WELLS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER, 1964

Tel: Shepton Mallet 2237

Wells 2643  
(Residence)

Area Health Department  
U.D.C. Offices  
Market Square  
Shepton Mallet  
Somerset

To The Chairman and Councillors of the Wells Rural District Council,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1964, prepared in accordance with the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959 and Ministry of Health Circular 1/65 of 11th January, 1965.

There were no serious outbreaks of disease of any kind throughout the year and the main causes of death in the community change little from year to year - except for lung cancer which showed a higher death rate than in 1963 and illustrates the need to support the national campaign against the deplorable loss of life from this cause.

The Live Birth and various Mortality Rates were favourable but the Still Birth Rate was raised compared with that of the previous year.

On the environmental hygiene side, dealt with fully in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, satisfactory progress continued to be made; a sewerage scheme for two villages was completed and preparations for a scheme for three further villages were finalised. An additional duty which devolved upon the Public Health Department during the year was the search for suspect cans of corned beef connected with the Aberdeen Typhoid Outbreak but none came to light, and contacts of the small typhoid outbreak in the North of the County were fortunately negative.

I would like to record my appreciation of the support I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, and from the other Officers of the Council. I am especially indebted to the Chief and Deputy Public Health Inspectors for their help and co-operation during the year, and to my secretary, Mr. T.W. Foster, for his loyalty and hard work, and particularly for the assembling of this report.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

D.E. CLARE  
Medical Officer of Health



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30245904>



# INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
General Statistic   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	3
Vital Statistics   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	3 & 4
Notifiable Diseases   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	4
Causes of Death   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	5
Notes on Vital Statistics   ...   ...   ...   ...	6
Annual Return of Food Poisoning   ...   ...   ...	7
National Assistant Act, 1948 (Sec. 47)   ...   ...	7
Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations   ...   ...	7
Vaccinations & Inoculations   ...   ...   ...	8
Sewage Report   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	9
Water Supply General   ...   ...   ...   ...	9
Water Supplies to Parishes   ...   ...   ...	10 & 11
Inspections   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	12
Ice Cream   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	12
Slaughterhouses   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	12
Refuse Collection   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	13
Food Inspection   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	13
Distribution & Sale of Milk   ...   ...   ...	13
Factories Act and Outworkers   ...   ...   ...	14
Meat Inspection   ...   ...   ...   ...   ...	15
Water Supplies - Analysis (Bristol Waterworks Company)	16 & 17

-----





# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District (in acres)	...	...	57,175
Population (mid-year 1964)	...	...	10,840
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	3,123
Rateable Value	...	...	£246,159
Product of a Penny Rate..	...	...	£1,031. 15. 7.

## MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1964

(With comparative figures for Somerset and England & Wales where available)

### BIRTHS

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Wells R.D.C.</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
				<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Legitimate	80	89	169			8,625	(Provisional)
Illegitimate	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>			<u>529</u>	
Totals	<u>85</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>179</u>			<u>9,154</u>	<u>874,148</u>
Rate per 1,000 population.	...	16.5	17.34			16.86	18.4
(Area Births Comparability Factor 1.05)						(Corrected)	

### ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS

(Per cent of total live births)	5.58	5.78
---------------------------------	------	------

### STILL BIRTHS

Legitimate	3	2	5				
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>				
Totals	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>			141	14,545
Rate per 1,000 live & still births	32.5					15.17	16.4

### TOTAL LIVE & STILL BIRTHS

89	96	185			9,295	888,693
----	----	-----	--	--	-------	---------

### DEATHS

<u>TOTAL DEATHS</u> (all ages)	78	74	152			6,629	534,737
Rate per 1,000 population	...	13.9	8.07			10.62	11.3
(Area Deaths Comparability Factor 0.58)							

### INFANT DEATHS

(under 1 year)

Legitimate	1	1	2			108	
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>			<u>11</u>	
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>			<u>119</u>	

(Under 4 wks)

Legitimate	1	1	2				
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>				
Totals	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>			82	12,106

(Under 1 week)

Legitimate	1	1	2				
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>				
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>			68	

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

		<u>Wells R.D.C.</u>		<u>Somerset</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
		<u>Recorded</u>	<u>Corrected</u>		
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000	...				
total live births	...	11.18		13.00	20.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000	...				
legitimate live births	...	11.84		12.52	
Illegitimate Infants Deaths per	...				
1,000 Illegitimate live births	...			20.79	

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATES

(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000	...				
total live births)	...	11.18		8.96	13.8

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

(deaths under 1 week per 1,000	...				
total live births)	...	11.18		7.43	

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

(Still births & deaths under 1 wk.	...				
combined per 1,000 live & still	...				
births)	...	43.3		22.49	28.2

MATERNAL MORTALITY(Including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	-	1	226
Rate per 1,000 total live & still	...	-	0.11	0.25
births	...			

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>
Whooping Cough.....	4
Measles.....	9
Tuberculosis (Lungs).....	3
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	2
Erysipelas.....	2
Scarlatina.....	4
TOTAL	<u>24</u>

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIVE DURING 1964  
(As given by the Registrar-General)

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 wks	4 wks & under 1 year	Age in Years									
					1	5	15	25	35	45	55	65	75 & up- wards	
Malignant Neoplasms	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Stomach	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	
Malignant Neoplasm	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	4	1	
Lung, Bronchus														
Malignant Neoplasm	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Breast	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	
Other Malignant and	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	
Lymphatic Neoplasms	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	2	
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Diabetes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Vascular Lesions of	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	5	
Nervous System	F	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	5	5	
Coronary Disease,	M	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	3	6	
Angina	F	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	
Other Heart Diseases	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	5	
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11	
Other Circulatory	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Disease	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Bronchitis	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
Other Diseases of	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Respiratory System														
Nephritis & Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Other Defined and	M	6	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	2	
ill-defined Diseases	F	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	
Motor Vehicle	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Accidents														
All Other Accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	78	1	-	1	1	-	3	1	8	19	20	24	
	F	74	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	8	15	47	



## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1964

(Although as a general rule the figures are too small for much significance to be attached to them, nevertheless certain broad statements can be made).

### Population

An increase of 120 over the population for mid-year 1963 was estimated by the Registrar-General, and births exceeded deaths by 27.

### Births

Live Births - There was a drop of 15 in the total number of births compared with the previous year, with a corresponding drop in the Recorded Birth Rate. When this is adjusted by the Area Births Comparability Factor, a Corrected Birth Rate is obtained better than that of the County as a whole but less than the National figure.

Still Births - The figure of 6 still births during the year gives an increase of 4 over the previous year and a Still Birth Rate which compares unfavourably with the County and National Rates.

### Deaths

All Ages - This year there was a marked drop of 44 in the total number of deaths, and when the Area Deaths Comparability Factor is employed, a Corrected Death Rate is obtained considerably better than that of Somerset or England & Wales.

Infant Mortality - Infant deaths were 1 less than in 1963, giving a corresponding improvement in the mortality rates, but due to the 6 still births, the Perinatal Mortality Rate was raised.

Maternal Mortality - No deaths occurred in women from the District as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

### Causes of Death

Cardio-Vascular diseases - as usual caused the largest number of deaths in the District (88) but totalled 26 less than in 1963. Of these Coronary and Other Heart Diseases accounted for 56 deaths followed by Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System with 26.

Cancer - returned to second place in the causation of deaths in 1964 (27) and there were 6 more deaths than in each of the previous 2 years. Of these, Lung Cancer with 10 deaths jumped into first place as regards cancer sites, and caused 6 more deaths than in 1963. All these lung cancer deaths were in males and this is important to note in view of the well publicised association between this disease and heavy cigarette smoking.

Respiratory Diseases - probably due to the milder winter, fell back into third place in the causation of deaths, and were less than half the figure for 1963.

Accidents - caused 2 less deaths than in each of the previous years.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

There is little on which to comment as regards the incidence of notifiable disease during 1964. The 3 new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were from widely scattered parts of this rural area and bore no relationship to each other. With regard to the small outbreak of Typhoid Fever during the summer in the Chew Stoke Area from a school party that visited Spain, 2 school teachers and their son living at Chewton Mendip were members of the party and were isolated as contacts. Fortunately a series of stool and blood tests proved that they had not picked up the infection.

## ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SEC.47) & AMENDMENT ACT, 1951

No cases occurred requiring action under the provision of these Acts.

## MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959

Two instances occurred during the year in which routine sampling of milk from Producer/Retailers by Somerset County Council staff showed the presence of *Brucella Abortus* on biological examination at Bristol Public Health Laboratory.

Both farms were visited immediately and, in the first case, the farmer agreed to give up his small local retail trade, and in the second case all the milk went to a dairy for pasteurisation so that the application of formal Heat Treatment Orders was unnecessary.



## VACCINATIONS AND INOCULATIONS

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

(1) Primary Courses Number of children in the District who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the year ended 31.12.64.

Children born in the years :-

1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1955-59	1950-54	TOTAL
36	105	7	3	1	4	-	156

(2) Reinforcing Injections

Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.64.

-	1	9	-	-	168	91	269
---	---	---	---	---	-----	----	-----

### TETANUS IMMUNISATION

(1) Primary Courses. Number of children in District who completed a full course of primary immunisation in year ended 31.12.1964.

36	105	7	3	1	4	-	156
----	-----	---	---	---	---	---	-----

(2) Reinforcing Injections. Children receiving reinforcing injections in year ended 31.12.1964.

-	1	2	7	-	168	90	268
---	---	---	---	---	-----	----	-----

### WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Number of children in District who completed a primary course of Pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in year ended 31.12.64.

36	105	7	3	1	-	-	152
----	-----	---	---	---	---	---	-----

### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

(1) Primary Course. Number of persons in District who received a course of primary vaccination (two injections of Salk vaccine, three injections of quadruple vaccine or three doses of Oral vaccine) during the year 1964.

Children born 1964		Children born 1963		Children born 1962		Children born 1943-61		Young persons born 1933-42		Persons under 40 yrs of age & priority Groups.	
Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral
9	15	25	73	2	22	-	18	-	4	-	3

(2) Reinforcements 1964.

Number of persons (all groups who) rec'd a 3rd Salk Injn. or 4th injn. of quadruple Vacc.	Number of children of 5 yrs. but under 12 yrs. who rec'd a 4th Salk injn. or 5th injn. of quadruple vacc.	Number of persons (all groups) who rec'd a reinforcing dose of Oral vacc. following 2 Salk injns.	Number of children of 5 yrs. but under 12 yrs. who rec'd a dose of Oral Vacc. after 3 Salk injns. or 3 Oral doses or 2 Salk injns. plus 2 Oral doses.
5	-	2	178

### SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in the District in year 1964.

0-3 mths		4-6 mths		7-9 mths		10-12 mths		1 year		2-4 years		5-14 years		15 or over	
P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	P	R
5	3	2	7	30	-	4	-	2	6	5	18				

P = Primary Vaccination.

R = Re-vaccination.

# CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Main drainage and sewage disposal works serve the following villages:-

Wookey	
Walton	
Meare (Central part of village only)	
Easton	) Joint scheme.
Westbury-Sub-Mendip	
Rodney Stoke	) Joint scheme.
Draycott	

The Rodney Stoke and Draycott sewerage and sewage disposal scheme referred to in my previous report was completed as expected in April, 1964.

It would seem that the villages most urgently in need of sewerage and sewage Disposal Schemes are Butleigh, including the hamlet of Butleigh Wootton, Baltonsborough, Coxley, Yarley, Henton, Bleadney and Glencot, Elm Close and Haybridge Areas in the parish of St. Cuthbert Out.

The Scheme which provides for servicing Butleigh, Butleigh Wootton and Baltonsborough is nearing the final stages and it is confidently expected that tenders will be invited during the early part of 1965 and probable that work can commence in the summer.

The effluent produced by the Wookey sewerage disposal works does not always comply with the standard approved by the Somerset River Authority consequently works of a minor nature are indicated in an endeavour to effect an improvement.

The possibility of extending the Wookey sewerage disposal works in order to cater for Yarley, Henton and Bleadney is also being considered.

## WATER SUPPLY

Fortunately in spite of the dry summer there were no shortages of water during the year, furthermore the quality was satisfactory.

The following works were completed by the Bristol Waterworks Company the statutory undertakers :-

The 18"/15" main between Cheddar and Rodney Stoke was commissioned using temporary connection to enable water from the Cheddar Treatment Works to be passed to Draycott and to augment the supply to Wells Rural Areas fed from the system taken over with the amalgamation with Street Urban District Council.

At Walton a length of 1690 yards of 4 inch main was laid to improve pressures in the higher parts of the village.

## FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

The following figures show the content of fluoride in the water supplied from the different sources :-

<u>Source</u>	<u>Fluoride in Parts per Million</u>
Priddy	Nil
Watchet Springs (Horrington Area)	0.04
* North Wootton.	0.06

\* (This hard source is used as a make-up water only when necessary)



# NOTES ON WATER SUPPLIES TO INDIVIDUAL VILLAGES

## BALTONSBOROUGH

Each inhabited house has a supply laid on.

## BUTLEIGH

134 houses are supplied with main water and a few of the outlying properties rely on wells.

## CHEWTON MENDIP

Most of the 175 houses in this village are supplied with water from the Waldegrave Estate Company's private supply. A few properties, because of their situation, rely on wells or rain water storage.

## OUT ST. CUTHBERT

East and West Horrington.

82 houses out of 134 have a piped supply and the remainder are supplied from standpipes.

## COXLEY

Approximately 146 houses out of 205 are supplied with water on tap and the only suppliers now are the statutory undertakers since a new main was laid for the benefit of the residents of Coxley Wick.

## BURCOTT

71 houses mainly relying on their own wells.

## EASTON

This village has a main water supply. 78 of the 105 houses are connected to the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains and 24 rely on standpipes.

## WOOKEY HOLE, ELM CLOSE & HAYBRIDGE

These groups of houses are supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

## DULCOTE

Some 44 houses of which 31 have a piped supply derived from a small private water system installed many years ago. The quality and quantity of this supply has been satisfactory during the year.

## CHILCOTE, WORMINSTER, MILTON & WALCOMBE

These small groups of houses have piped supplies from various sources and their needs appear to have been met.

## DINDER

55 out of 63 houses have piped supplies from the Dinder Estate Supply. This water is derived from springs which rise near Masbury Ring. The remainder of the houses are not within reach of the mains and have to rely on wells, etc., for their water. The Dinder Estate Supply is adequate in quantity for the needs of the village and the quality has been maintained by chlorination.

## GODNEY

51 out of 73 houses have piped supplies from the mains of the statutory undertakers. The remainder of the houses have to rely on private supplies as they are not in compact groups or within easy reach of the trunk main.

## MEARE

The Bristol Waterworks Company supply this village. 211 out of 293 houses have piped water and approximately 30 others are served by standpipe.

## NORTH WOOTTON

65 out of 79 houses have piped water of good quality and unlimited quantity. The village is supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

## PRIDDY

58 of the 96 houses have piped supplies. The majority of this number are supplied from the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains but there are still a few obtaining water from agricultural systems installed by the Church Commissioners.

## RODNEY STOKE

There are 249 houses in this parish and 222 are supplied by the Bristol Waterworks Company.

## SHARPHAM

10 houses out of 30 have piped supplies. The remainder are not within easy reach of the main and have to haul water from one of two standpipes which have been provided.

## WALTON

There are 213 houses, and all except the outlying ones now have water on tap. The total number of houses with piped water is 185.

## WESTBURY-SUB-MENDIP

The total number of houses in this parish is 175. 49 houses have piped supplies from an agricultural system installed by the Church Commissioners some time ago. A further 104 are supplied from the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains.

## WEST PENNARD

179 out of 199 houses have piped supplies. The remainder have standpipes within easy reach or rely on private supplies.

## WOOKEY

A rather scattered parish comprising Wookey, Worth, Yarley, Henton and Bleadney. There are 312 houses in this village and 242 have piped water from the Bristol Waterworks Company's mains.

## THE MENDIP HOSPITAL

This large hospital which houses well over 1,000 patients and staff has its own water supply. The main source is two boreholes situate between Bristol Road and Watchet's Spring which provides the water for East & West Horrington. These boreholes are in the old red sandstone formation, and yield sufficient water for the very large demands of this hospital. Arrangements have been made with the Bristol Waterworks Company to provide a supply in emergency.

## INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the inspections made during the year:-

<u>Infectious Diseases</u> ... ..	Nil
<u>Disinfectants</u> - Supplied by Council ... ..	Nil
<u>Visits</u> connected with Food Poisoning Outbreaks ...	Nil
<u>Nuisances</u> - Arising from foul & choked drains, foul accumulations, etc. ... ..	53
<u>Drainage Works</u> ... ..	275
<u>Samples</u> - Of drinking water sent to the County Lab. for chemical analysis ... ..	7
<u>Samples</u> - Of drinking water sent to the P.H. Lab. for bacteriological examination ... ..	32
<u>Petroleum Acts</u> - Premises licensed under Petroleum Acts for the storage of petrol ... ..	52
<u>Visits</u> - re water supplies ... ..	80
<u>Bakehouses</u> (1), <u>Slaughterhouses</u> (4), inspected ...	51
<u>Public Schools</u> - inspected ... ..	22
<u>Dairies</u> - visits to ... ..	22
<u>Visits</u> - re Food Inspection ... ..	265
<u>Other Inspections</u> - Under Housing Acts ... ..	164
<u>Visits</u> - re Refuse Collection ... ..	85
<u>Inspections</u> - Ice Cream Premises ... ..	47
<u>Caravans</u> ... ..	55

## ICE CREAM

Premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream	Nil
Premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream	56

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are only two licensed slaughterhouses in the Council's area and both comply fully with the Structural Provisions of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations. The premises concerned are both well managed and have been in regular use during the period under review.

As in previous years the whole of the meat produced in the licensed slaughterhouses has been inspected in accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 and details of numbers of animals slaughtered and quantities of meat condemned are given in the relevant schedule attached to this report.



## REFUSE COLLECTION

As in the past the system of collecting refuse fortnightly continues. A Contractor is employed by the Council who undertakes the collection of refuse providing a suitable vehicle for the purpose, staff and equipment.

After collection the refuse is disposed of by tipping in a disused quarry situated in an isolated part of the District. Precautions are taken to prevent offence to the public and regular inspection and treatment ensures that the tip and surrounding land is free from pests.

Road traffic increases considerably during the summer holiday period and litter bins for the reception of picnic refuse exist in all main road lay bys. Generally speaking the facilities provided are used with consideration by family parties but tend on occasions to be abused by commercial drivers.

## FOOD INSPECTION

All the food shops, Cafes and licensed houses in the district were inspected during the year and on the whole the various premises were found to be well maintained. As explained on previous occasions most of the businesses are family concerns consequently few persons are employed. Personal interest and supervision by proprietor ensures high standards of behaviour in those employed consequently no complaints concerning the handling of food stuffs were received during the year.

Minor contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were observed on a few occasions necessitating only informal action.

A small quantity of unsound canned food was surrendered and destroyed.

During the summer a complaint was received regarding a loaf of bread found to contain a maggot. The loaf had been delivered to a house in the Rural District by a bakers' roundsman, the bakehouse in which the preparation and baking had taken place being in another district. The facts were reported to the appropriate Committee of the Council and proceedings authorised under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The case was duly brought before the Court and a decision given in favour of the Council, the penalty being £10 and £11.15.0d Costs.

## DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF MILK

The law relating to milk has remained unchanged and the Somerset County Council under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, are still responsible for licensing all dealers of designated milk except those producer retailers covered by the County Agricultural Committee.

The District Council are the Authority responsible for Registration of Distributors with premises in their area. At the 31st December, 1964 there were 7 Registered Distributors in the Council's District.

# FACTORIES ACT, 1937

INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	38	24	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises enforced by Local Authority.	9	9	-	-
TOTAL	48	34	Nil	Nil

DEFECTS Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation in two instances - remedied on informal action.

OUTWORKERS. There are 31 Outworkers in the District (concerned with wearing apparel).

# MEAT INSPECTION

Period - 1st January - 31st December, 1964.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	103	-	240	600	147	-
Number Inspected	103	-	240	600	147	-
All Diseases except Tuber- culosis & Cysticerci; Whole carcasses condemned.		-	11	5	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned,	11	-	8	7	2	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis & Cysticerci;	10.7%	-	1.5%	2%	1.36%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole Carcasses Condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised & Totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of Meat Condemned (in lbs) for :-						
(a) Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Other	86	-	678	328	6	-
(c) Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total (in lbs) Condemned	86	-	678	328	6	-



# WATER SUPPLIES IN THE RURAL

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS OBTAINED BY THE

(In each case the figures given are the average

	Priddy source supplying Priddy, Easton, Westbury- sub-Mendip, Rodney Stoke and Draycott.		Wellhead water sup- plying Godney, Walton, Sharpham, Meare, Westbury, Butleigh, Yarley, Bleadney, Worth & Coxley.		Wookey Supply	
	Untreated water ex Priddy Borehole	Treated water ex Westbury Pilot Resr.	Untreated water ex Wellhead	Treated water	Untreated	Treated
<b>Bacteriological Analysis</b>						
No. of Samples	24	12	22	47	6	9
Cols. per ml growing on Agar 3 days @ 20° C.	373	307	100	32	14	41
2 days @ 37° C.	84	2.7	20	18	1.2	1.4
Most probable number of B. Coli per 100-mls.						
Typical or faecal	0.9	Nil	12.6	Nil	Nil	Nil
Presumptive	1.2	Nil	16.5	Nil	2.2	1.1
<b>Chemical Analysis</b>						
(Results in parts per mil)						
No. of Samples	6			11		1
Total Solids	270			357		412
Chlorides as Chlorine	13.0			15.1		19.0
Nitrates as Nitrogen	1.92			2.27		2.89
Nitrites as Nitrogen	Nil			Nil		Nil
Saline Ammonia	0.002			0.198		Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.018			0.014		0.014
Permanganate Oxygen	0.19			0.13		0.12
Total Hardness	216			304		362
Permanent Hardness	49			64		70
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	188			260		310
pH	7.5			7.5		7.55
Colour	Nil			Nil		Nil

(No tests for plumbo-solvency have been made but none of these  
waters are likely to be plumbo-solvent)



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WELLS

BRISTOL WATERWORKS COMPANY IN 1964.

of the results obtained during the year)

Compton Springs to West Pennard including North Wootton supply when used.		Baltonsborough ex Shepton Mallet	Watchet Springs to Horringtons
Untreated	Treated		
24	24	12	25
83	457	242	97
6.8	9.5	56	1.4
4.5	Nil	0.17	2.2
10.1	0.33	1.8	2.8
	12		5
	820		287
	19.7		13.8
	1.91		2.15
	Nil		Nil
	0.015		0.013
	0.012		0.020
	0.12		0.21
	660		245
	333		49
	345		214
	7.5		7.4
	0.3		1

(signed) Deryck E. Clare  
Medical Officer of Health

S. Harkness  
Chief Public Health Inspector





